

\*\*\*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED// FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO)\*\*\*\*\*

Subject: TACOM LCMC GPA 10-002, M240 Series Machine Guns, Unauthorized Interchanging of Rods and Sears

Originator: /C=US/O=U.S.

GOVERNMENT/OU=DOD/OU=ARMY/OU=ORGANIZATIONS/L=CONUS/L=WARREN

MI/OU=TACOM/OU=TACOM SAFETYOFUSE(UC)

DTG: 211617Z Oct 09

Precedence: PRIORITY

DAC: General

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UNCLASSIFIED//

Subject: Ground Precautionary Action (GPA) Message, TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, (TACOM LCMC) Control No. GPA 10-002, Maintenance Mandatory, Unauthorized Interchanging of Single and Double Notch Operating Rods and/or Sears on the M240 Series Machine Guns. Machine Guns Affected:

M240 Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-025-8095, LIN L92352, Density 16,495; M240B Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-412-3129, LIN M92841, Density 44,826; M240C Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-085-4758, LIN M92420, Density 8,004; M240D Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-418-6995, Density Unk; M240E1 Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-252-4288, Density Unk; M240H Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-518-2410, LIN M92591, Density 4,519; M240L Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-549-5837, LIN M92454, Density 0; M240N Machine Gun, NSN 1005-01-493-1666, Density Unk

XXX  
X "ATTENTION" X  
X THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS INFORMATION THAT IS VITAL X  
X TO THE SAFETY OF ARMY PERSONNEL AND THE OPERATION X  
X OR MAINTENANCE OF ARMY EQUIPMENT. X  
XXX

References:

a. TM 9-1005-313-10 dated November 2002; w/ch1, 15 April 2005; ch2, 20 May 2005; ch3, 15 June 2007; ch4, 4 April 2008; ch5, 8 May 2009; ch6, 18 September 2009.

b. TM 9-1005-313-23&P dated December 2007; w/ch1, 14 May 2008; ch2, 8 May 2009.

1. Distribution:

a. This is a "Ground Precautionary Action" (GPA) Message. Commanders/Directors of Army Commands (ACOM)/Army Service Component Commands (ASCC)/Direct Reporting Units (DRU), Army National Guard (ARNG), US Army Reserve (USAR) Command, US Navy (USN), US Air Force (USAF), US Marine Corps (USMC) and other Service Commanders and Responsible Offices will retransmit this message to all subordinate Commanders/Activities within 24 hours of receipt and will, within 5 working days, acknowledge receipt by e-mail to [DAMI\\_safety.of.use@conus.army.mil](mailto:DAMI_safety.of.use@conus.army.mil) or by telephoning DSN 273-2623, Commercial (586)239-2623 or in writing to Commander, TACOM Life Cycle Management Command (TACOM LCMC), ATTN: AMSTA-LCL-MPM, 6501 E. 11 Mile Rd., Warren, MI 48397-5000.

b. Commanders/Directors of Army Commands (ACOM)/Army Service Component Commands (ASCC)/Direct Reporting Units (DRU), Army National Guard (ARNG), US Army Reserve (USAR) Command, other Service Commanders and other Responsible Offices, will also track and report compliance of this message for all subordinate Commands/Activities to: TACOM-RI/Dennis Bowrey, AMSTA-LCW-SIC, Bldg 110/2/W, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL 61299-7630, DSN 793-5943, COMM 309 782-5943, FAX 309 782-0241, email [dennis.bowrey@us.army.mil](mailto:dennis.bowrey@us.army.mil) not later than (NLT): 30 November 2009.

## 2. Issue:

a. Summary of problem. Recently there has been an increase in the number of reported cases in which the wrong operating rod (op-rod) and/or sear have been installed in the M240 series weapon. There are two different operating rods and sears for the M240 series of weapons. These operating rods and sears are not interchangeable and should only be used in the correct model within the series (see TM 9-1005-313-10 Work package (WP) 7 page 3).

b. Expected results if failure occurs. Interchanging of these parts will cause the weapon to malfunction resulting in parts damage to the op-rod and/or sear. The malfunction could cause a runaway gun, but not a weapon stoppage.

## 3. User Actions:

### a. Parts Effected:

(1) In the M240, M240C and the M240E1 there is a "single notched" operating rod and sear. The NSN for this operating rod is 1005-01-033-3901; the NSN for the correct sear is 1005-01-033-1524.

(2) In the M240B, M240D, M240G, M240H, M240L, and M240N, the operating rod is a "double notched" operating rod NSN 1005-01-413-6992. The sear is also "double notched", the NSN for the correct sear is 1005-01-409-0144.

b. Operating Procedures. If soldiers experience a malfunction or runaway gun in the field, the weapon can still be used in a heated exchange with the enemy. Have field maintenance repair the weapon as soon as possible after returning from the mission. Runaway Machine Gun procedures are in TM 9-1005-313-10, Work Package (WP) 0015 00-1 and 00-2.

c. Corrective Procedures: Upon receipt of this GPA, users shall locate all M240 Series weapons on site.

(1) Clean and lubricate each weapon in accordance with TM 9-1005-313-10 (WP 25). Cleaning and lubricating of the weapon should be done by Operator prior to Unit Level PMCS.

(2) Perform proper Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS) on each weapon in accordance with TM 9-1005-313-10 (WP 20). Note: PMCS should also be done at the intervals specified in 9-1005-313-23&P. A brief description of PMCS intervals is provided in paragraph 3.d below.

(3) During the PMCS verify that the correct operating rods (reference TM 9-1005-313-23&P, WP 14 page 00-3) are used. If the wrong operating rod is currently being used, it must be replaced with the correct operating rod to prevent malfunctions.

(4) During the PMCS verify that the correct sear is used as well. Reference TM 9-1005-313-23&P, WP 40, page 1 for an illustration of the two different sears. One has a "double notch" and should be used on the M240B, M240D, M240G, M240H, M240L and the M240N. The other is a "single notched" sear and is used on the M240, M240C and the M240E1. If the wrong sear is currently being used, it must be replaced with the correct sear to prevent malfunctions.

(5) A picture is posted here to clarify the different configurations:  
[https://aeps2.ria.army.mil/commodity/gpm/tacom\\_wn/OpRod-Sear.jpg](https://aeps2.ria.army.mil/commodity/gpm/tacom_wn/OpRod-Sear.jpg).

d. PMCS Intervals:

(1) Intervals for Operator Level Maintenance PMCS described in TM 9-1005-313-10 (WP 20) vary between prior to every firing and after every firing depending on procedure. See TM 9-1005-313-10 for detailed instructions.

(2) Intervals for Field Level Maintenance PMCS described in TM 9-1005-313-23&P (WP 5) is as follows:

(a) Every 90 days to keep weapon ready for use.

(b) If the weapon has not been used for 90 days, PMCS in the operators manual (TM 9-1005-313-10) should also be performed.

(c) If rust or other signs of wear appear on the weapon, PMCS must be performed immediately.

4. Unit Commanders, contact your local TACOM LCMC Logistics Assistance Representative (LAR) or your State Surface Maintenance Manager upon receipt of this message for assistance. For assistance in locating your TACOM LCMC LAR, see paragraph 7d.

5. TACOM LCMC/PM Actions:

a. A PS magazine article will be published outlining these differences in models of the M240 series weapon.

b. TM 9-1005-313-23&P, Change 3, will be written to clarify op-rod/weapon and sear/weapon relationships (reference WP 0014 and WP 0040 respectively).

6. Supply Status: There are no supply concerns/requirements.

7. Points of Contacts:

a. Crew Served Weapons Team Equipment Specialist, M240 Machine Gun, Mr. Dennis Bowrey, AMSTA-LCW-SIC, DSN 793-5943, Commercial (309) 782-5943, email [dennis.bowrey@us.army.mil](mailto:dennis.bowrey@us.army.mil).

b. Crew Served Weapons Team Equipment Specialist, M240 Machine Gun, Mr. Matthew Williams, AMSTA-LCW-SIC, DSN 793-1918, Commercial (309) 782-1918, email [matthew.williams22@us.army.mil](mailto:matthew.williams22@us.army.mil).

c. Safety Engineer, Mr. Gavin Ziegler, AMSTA-CSC-ZR, DSN 793-2995, Commercial (309) 782-2995, email [gavin.ziegler@us.army.mil](mailto:gavin.ziegler@us.army.mil).

d. To find your TACOM LCMC LAR, you must be a registered user in the Army Electronic Product Support (AEPS) database. If you are a registered user, then click on this link:

<https://aeps2.ria.army.mil/Services/Lars/Tacom/larmap/LARlocate/larmap.cfm> then select the appropriate region; i.e. CONUS, Europe, Far East, and SWA. Select the location nearest you and click on a name. This will give you a LAR's name, DSN and commercial phone number, email address, and photo.

(1) If you are not a registered user, request access at the public page: <https://aeps.ria.army.mil/aepspublic.cfm> then click on "Access Request Form" and follow the instructions for obtaining an AEPS userid. If you don't have access to AEPS, you can also obtain this information by contacting the TACOM Senior Command Representative (SCR) for your area.

(2) CONUS-East Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine and FORSCOM. CONUS-East SCR can be reached at DSN 236-6921, Commercial 910-396-6921.

(3) CONUS-West Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming. CONUS-West SCR can be reached at DSN 737-0263, Commercial 254-287-0263.

(4) Pacific Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii, California, New Mexico and Guam. Pacific SCR can be reached at DSN 357-2991, Commercial 253-967-2991.

(5) Europe Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Great Britain, Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg, Italy, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Macedonia. Europe SCR can be reached at DSN 314-375-3461, Commercial 01149 621-487-3461, in Germany, 0621-487-3461.

(6) Far East Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Korea, Okinawa, Kwajalein, and Japan. Far East SCR can be reached at DSN 315-721-7101, commercial 011-82-2-2270-7101.

(7) SWA OIF Region (Iraq) SWA, Region OIF includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Iraq. SWA Region OIF SCR OIF Balad Iraq can be reached at DSN 312-987-5130, ext 6416 commercial 732-427-5130 ext 6416. Joint Base Balad is DSN 312-987-5130, ext 6427 commercial 732-427-5130 ext 6427.

(8) SWA OEF Region (Afghanistan) SWA, Region OEF includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Afghanistan. SWA Region TF Victory OEF SCR OEF can be reached at DSN 318-481-6836/6834. Alternate is DSN 312-987-5130 Commercial 732-427-5130 ext 3821.

(9) Integrated Readiness Maintenance Team (IRMT) Region (Kuwait) SWA Region includes all Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Units in Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE. IRMT Region IRMT Team Leader can be reached at DSN 318-430-7460, Commercial 011-965-389-7460.